

Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 CCO-00 /016 R

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S E C R E T STATE 195400

EXDIS TOSHU 131 TOECO 102

E.O. 116: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (SHULTZ, CASEY, AND DENT)

SUBJECT: SPECIAL SUMMARY NO. 12

1. ASSESSMENT OF SYRIAN AND EGYPTIAN ALERTS

EMBASSY TEL AVIV AND AMCONSUL JERUSALEM BELIEVE THAT AN ATTACK ON ISRAEL IS UNLIKELY AT THIS TIME. THE ISRAEL DEFENSE FORCE (IDF) DOES NOT APPEAR OVERLY CONCERNED ABOUT A REPORTED EGYPTIAN AIR DEFENSE ALERT, AND FEELS THAT THE SYRIAN DEPLOYMENT IS DEFENSIVE AND NOT LINKED TO THE ALERT. THE IDF INDICATED THAT INCREASED ALERTNESS IS NORMAL IN EGYPT DURING RAMADAN. A US SOURCE, WHO RETURNED FROM DAMASCUS SEPTEMBER 26, SAW NO EVIDENCE OF A BUILD-UP. A SYRIAN TRIBAL LEADER, HOWEVER, HAS REPORTED "STRANGE ACTIVITY" BY THE MILITARY IN THE LAST TWO DAYS. (SECRET) TEL AVIV 7555, JERUSALEM 1043, AND AMMAN 5237, 9/30 (EXDIS).

2. QADHAFI'S UTILITY FADING FOR SADAT

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USINT CAIRO REPORTS THAT SADAT SEES QADHAFI'S UTILITY AS COMING TO AN END AND WILL NOT ACCOMMODATE HIM MUCH FURTHER. QADHAFI'S PROPENSITY FOR CAUSING PROBLEMS HAS NOT BEEN REDUCED, AND AS IT BECOMES CLEAR THAT THE

LIBYAN-EGYPTIAN UNION WILL NOT WORK, THE NEED TO MAIN-

TAIN A PRETENSE TO THE CONTRARY BECOMES BURDENSOME. SADAT'S PATIENCE IS WEARING THIN, ALTHOUGH NOT TO THE POINT OF DRAMATICALLY ANNOUNCING A HALT OF THE UNITY EXPERIMENT. (SECRET) CAIRO 2894, 10/1 (LIMDIS).
EXPERIMENT. (SECRET) CAIRO 2894, 10/1 (LIMDIS).

3. ARAB TERRORIST INCIDENT

AUSTRIAN CHANCELLOR KREISKY HAS TOLD EMBASSY VIENNA THAT AUSTRIA WILL CONTINUE TO ALLOW SOVIET CITIZENS TO TRANSIT AUSTRIA, BUT THAT FACILITATIVE ASSISTANCE WOULD BE PHASED OUT. HE SAID NEGATIVE WORLD REACTION TO HIS DECISION TO CLOSE THE SCHOENAU CAMP WOULD NOT MOVE HIM TO CHANGE HIS POSITION. KREISKY SAID HE IS PREPARED TO RESIGN RATHER THAN ACCEPT REVERSAL. HE GAVE THE DISTINCT IMPRESSION THAT HE IS PREPARED, AT LEAST AT THIS JUNCTURE, TO STAND BY HIS DECISION. THE EMBASSY BELIEVES HEAVY FLAK FROM ISRAELIS COULD PROVE COUNTERPRODUCTIVE. (SECRET) VIENNA 8086, 10/1.

4. LIBYAN OIL NATIONALIZATION DEADLINE PASSES

EMBASSY TRIPOLI REPORTS THAT THE SEPTEMBER 30 DEADLINE FOR CERTAIN OIL COMPANIES ACCEPTING LIBYA'S TERMS FOR NATIONALIZATION PASSED WITHOUT ANY BASIC CHANGE IN THE STATUS QUO. GRACE PETROLEUM AGREED SEPTEMBER 29 TO LIBYA'S DEMAND FOR 51 PERCENT NATIONALIZATION AND THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM REPORTEDLY SET UP FIVE COMMITTEES ON SEPTEMBER 30 TO DETERMINE COMPENSATION FOR THOSE COMPANIES NOT ACCEPTING NATIONALIZATION: MOBIL; TEXACO AND SOCAL; SHELL; ESSO AND LIBYAN AMERICAN OIL; AND NELSON BUNKER HUNT. (LIMITED OFFICIAL USE) TRIPOLI 1259, 10/1.

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5. ICELAND REJECTS HEATH PROPOSAL

ICELAND'S PRIME MINISTER JOHANNESSEN SENT A LETTER TO PRIME MINISTER HEATH SEPTEMBER 28 REJECTING THE BRITISH PROPOSAL FOR A STANDSTILL TRUCE IN THE FISHERIES DISPUTE. THE LETTER REITERATED THE STANDARD ICELANDIC POSITION THAT THERE CAN BE NO NEGOTIATIONS UNTIL BRITISH NAVY SHIPS ARE REMOVED FROM ICELAND'S FISHING GROUNDS. EMBASSY REYKJAVIK STATES THAT IN SPITE OF THE HEATH PROPOSAL AND OTHER CONFIDENTIAL EFFORTS BEING MADE BY THE BRITISH, IT NOW APPEARS THAT ICELAND HAS SO DEEPLY COMMITTED ITSELF THAT RELATIONS WILL BE BROKEN OCTOBER 3. (CONFIDENTIAL) REYKJAVIK 1161, 10/1.

6. FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY

A. FRG SHAKEN BY SENATE ACTIONS ON US TROOP LEVELS...

FRG FOREIGN MINISTRY STATE SECRETARY APEL HAS INFORMED EMBASSY BONN THAT SENATE ACTIONS ON THE MANSFIELD, HUMPHREY, AND JACKSON-NUNN AMENDMENTS HAD CAUSED "CONSIDERABLE SHOCK" AT SENIOR LEVELS OF THE GERMAN GOVERNMENT. HE SAID ALTHOUGH THE FRG WAS MAINTAINING A RESTRAINED PUBLIC POSTURE, FRG OFFICIALS WERE QUESTIONING HOW LONG IT WOULD BE POSSIBLE TO BEAT BACK SENATE PRESSURE FOR UNILATERAL TROOP CUTS AND WHETHER THE US WOULD BE ABLE TO MAINTAIN A STRONG PRESENCE IN EUROPE WHILE REDUCING ITS ROLE IN OTHER PARTS OF THE WORLD. (SECRET) BONN 14184, 10/1 (LIMDIS).

B. ...BUT REMAINS FIRM ON BURDEN SHARING

USNATO REPORTS THAT THE BURDEN SHARING STUDY GROUP MEETING SEPTEMBER 28 WAS SLOWED BY THE FRG REPRESENTATIVE'S INSISTENCE THAT THE TEXT AND TABLES OF THE EXAMINED REPORT DRAFT REFLECT THAT BONN'S PAST BILATERAL AGREEMENT FULLY OFFSET US MILITARY BALANCE OF PAYMENT (BOP) EXPENDITURES AND BY HIS UNWILLINGNESS
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TO REGARD MILITARY BOP EXPENDITURES AS GROUNDS FOR OFFSET IN THE FUTURE WHEN THE US BASIC BOP ACCOUNT MAY BE IN SURPLUS. USNATO COMMENTS THAT THE FRG ARGUMENTS HAVE LAID THE BASIS FOR A POSSIBLE SUBSEQUENT REFUSAL BY THE FRG TO PARTICIPATE IN ANY NATO BURDEN SHARING ARRANGEMENTS. (CONFIDENTIAL)
USNATO 4634, 10/1. KISSINGER

SECRET

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 11 MAY 1999
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 02 OCT 1973
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: willialc
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973STATE195400
Document Source: ADS
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: S/S-O NAGAO/SNYDER/FICHTE
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: 116 GDS
Errors: n/a
Film Number: P750018-1807
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19731065/abqceivb.tel
Line Count: 145
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, TEXT ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN SS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: ONLY EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: ONLY EXDIS
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: willialc
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 24 OCT 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <13-Sep-2001 by martinml>; RELEASED <24-Oct-2001 by thigpegh>; APPROVED <01-Nov-2001 by willialc>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SPECIAL SUMMARY NO. 12
TAGS: OVIP, EG, IS
To: MOSCOW INFO TREAS
COMMERCE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005